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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 34 | Min 23 | Humidity 81% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 62,180 | Nifty 18,297 | Gold 55,680 | Silver 82,000 | Dollar 82.09 | Euro 89.57 | GBP 103.33

Hang up

CITY PAGE 3

What's with all these international spam calls?

Charged up

CITY PAGE 5

EV users find BESCOM meters to be too pricey

72.5% of vehicles observed over period of 11 days seen to be speeding on Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway

RACE TO FINISH

Vehicles zooming past at even 159.7 kmph; acceptable limit is 60 kmph

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According to a study by a private consulting company, most of the vehicles passing through the newly constructed Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway are speeding. Per the study, 72.5% of the vehicles were found to be moving at a speed of 69-81 kmph on an average.

The company Metrocount conducted the study over 11 days. Commuters travelling on the expressway were going at speeds reaching up to 159.7 kmph. The test was conducted for both sides of the expressway. The study recorded 6,07,620 vehicles of which 4,40,973 vehicles were found to be exceeding the speed limit.

"The study was conducted using pneumatic tube traffic counters placed on the road. The tubes can generate data to detect the vehicle, classify it and calculate its speed. As per our observation, 50-60% of vehicles are travelling at 80-90 kmph. As it is a newly constructed expressway, enforcement of traffic norms is weak," said a member of the company.

The 110-km-long expressway was constructed for Rs 8,480 crore and was expected to reduce the travel time between the two cities to 75 minutes. As per reports, nearly 84 people have lost their lives since its opening in September and 335 people were involved in accidents.

Experts highlight that the report is alarming and adequate measures must be taken to prevent vehicles from exceeding the speed limit. "While expressways are projected to be as per Western standards, we forget to take into account the driving behaviour, roadworthiness and safety standard features in places like the USA. We are not creating safe and safety-conscious

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7 »

> **"Many geometric elements of expressways like gradient, curvature, and super-elevation are a function of the assigned speed. When people speed, these elements do not support the vehicle and the driver loses control**
> —Prof Ashish Verma, IISc

Thirsting for Cauvery water

BWSSB fails to restore supply 2 months on; water allegedly contaminated

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It's been two months since Bangalore Water and Sewerage Board (Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board) left residents of 20M Cross Road in Ejipura bereft of Cauvery water. The water supply pipe is said to have been damaged during work by BWSSB then, and though the board had assured the residents that the waterline would be restored by May 8, this hasn't yet happened.

"We were told that Monday was going to be 'water day' for us. However, BWSSB has not been able to restore our Cauvery water connection. When they tried to pump water on Monday, it was a failed attempt with signs that the pipe is broken, and sewage is mixing with the water supply. The small amount of water that was pumped out was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

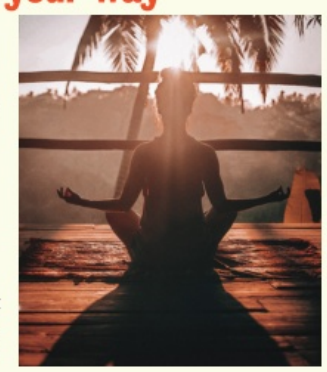
01 Lens-eye view

Catch the inaugural collaboration between the Museum of Art and Photography (MAP) and the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore! On display will be an Exhibition: India Tecton by German photographer Nicolaus Schmidt and an exclusive workshop on Photography: Ideas and Design Tools. The workshop begins with a guided tour of the Exhibition at the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan, giving the participants the opportunity to ask the artist about his working methods. In the practical part of the course, participants first learn about the wide range of photographic concepts and working methods.
Where: Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan (only on morning of Day 1), Museum of Art and Photography; When: May 15 to 19, 10.30 am – 5 pm
Info: goethe.de/bangalore

02 It's all skewed

Skewed... is Fourth Wall Theatre's maiden production directed by Mahesh SP written by Mahesh SP, Vilok V Kowsik & Arvindh S Kumar. The play is set in today's times. Divya, the protagonist, finds her husband, Kiran mysteriously dead in their residence. The case gets escalated as Kiran was a police inspector. Upon attempting to unravel the mystery, characters of everyone around Kiran are questioned. It is a story that reflects and questions society.
Where: Ranga Shankara; When: May 12, 7:30 pm
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

03 Yoga, your way



Yoga is a divine practice which unifies the body and mind. When combined with the beautiful practice of sound healing, it is definitely a blissful experience. You surely don't want to miss this. Join with your friends and family for Nada Yoga, a combination of yoga and sound healing and experience a rejuvenating morning.
Where: Atta Galatta; When: May 12, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm; Tickets: bookmyshow

Summer scenes: Kids become green warriors

Summer programme helps young minds become environmentally conscious

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As summer holidays are here, the Green Ambassadors Summer Campaign is inviting children, regardless of their age or location, to participate and raise awareness about different civic activities that need attention. Initiated by Beautiful Bharat, the campaign offers an exciting and engaging way for kids to spend their summer holidays while also contributing to making their city cleaner and greener.

The summer camp involves children by taking small but impactful actions, such as conserving water, reducing plastic usage, properly disposing of litter, and refraining from spitting in public places.

It teaches children how they can make a significant difference in their community. The campaign offers a range of activities that children can choose from and encourages them to involve their friends and family in these efforts.

The Green Ambassadors Summer Campaign aims to inspire children to become Green Champions by adopting eco-friendly habits and spreading awareness about the importance of environmental sustainability. The participants who successfully complete the campaign will be recognised with a certificate, proving that they are the change-makers in their community.

The 'Green Warriors' campaign is open to anyone across the country. What one needs to do is select the field they like to work in. For instance, one can choose to be a clean street champion, a water warrior, to raise awareness about the Stop India Spitting campaign, or a plastic warrior.

The individual who is choosing to be a plastic warrior has to raise awareness by going door-to-door in the neighbourhood and carry reusable cloth bags. Further, they must stop vendors from using plastic bags and to track their progress and show the Beautiful Bharat team how many they could convince.

Similarly, for no-spotting signs, put up signs near houses or stores to make it clear that spitting is no longer okay. They should always create spoof songs that will attract the citizens and create awareness. For a clean street, reach out to vendors to ensure surroundings are clean. Further, check that dustbins are put up near vendors.

This aside, those who choose to be water warriors can fix aerators to reduce water usage, spread awareness, and encourage people to use aerators. And also take up the water challenge to use limited water to shower, brush, or even wash hands.

Those who come with many different ideas and show progress will be termed green warriors.

From being aware about importance of green cover to helping conserve water, the camp aims at motivating kids to do their bit

Kids have to carry out door to door campaigns and convince others to make a positive change for the environment

Trees, standing tall after four years

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Residents of Munekollal near Marathahalli have a reason to rejoice. The saplings planted by volunteers four years ago have bloomed into trees, providing some much-needed greenery in the locality.

The volunteers of Save Green planted around 100 saplings on November 23, 2019 on a road at Munekollal. The road had no trees four years ago. Now it has well-grown trees on both sides of the road.

"I want more and more volunteers to come forward to bring back the glory of Bengaluru known as the Garden City of India," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake volunteer from Seegehalli. He said that planting a sapling is an easy task but nurturing it has become a tough job in the city. "I want the residents to adopt the saplings planted in front of their houses," he said.

The well-grown trees are not only providing oxygen but also a cool shade for parking of vehicles. The Save Green volunteers are known for planting saplings at vacant places at different locations across the city. They have also planted saplings on Sadaramangala Lake a few years ago. They converted a black spot into a green spot at Gottigere last July.

"I want to thank all the volunteers," said Tejwaswini of Save Green. She said that planting saplings would continue wherever possible. Shreyas S, a resident of Marathahalli, has been participating in such activities since 2017.

"My first encounter with Save Green, ma NGO, was in 2017 when I volunteered with them for a tree plantation in and around Marathahalli. Due to low green cover in our area and to provide shade to the residents we had contacted Save Green to help with the planting of saplings to increase the green cover in the area," said Shreyas.

He said that Save Green with support from a number of volunteers planted hundreds of saplings in the area. "I consider these trees a boon for the residents of Munekollal," he said. He also recalled how Save Green has organised a planting saplings programme at Sadaramangala Lake in 2019.

"It was a wonderful experience and now that lake looks beautiful with well-grown saplings. Bengaluru must regain its glory as the Garden City of the country," he said.

Saplings planted in Munnekollal in 2019 have bloomed into full-grown trees now, changing the landscape of the neighbourhood

ROAD TO DANGER UP AHEAD

Trinity signal needs better traffic management to curb speeding

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Commuters say that Trinity signal in MG Road is awaiting a serious accident as the Bengaluru traffic police are not stopping people who are speeding or jumping signals.

Naman Sinha, who travels every day from Kalyan Nagar to MG Road, says that during rush hour specifically, one can see a huge queue of bikes coming from the wrong side, even if the signal is green on the other side. This is dangerous since the streetlights are not that well-lit.

"With the rainy season coming, the speeds at which they try to jump the signal could be very risky for vehicles coming head-on. Every day you can see bikes and scooters riding on footpaths to get ahead of the queue. The cops are present in the areas wherever there are chances of issuing challans and not really to ensure safety, and that's what's mind-boggling to me. I have myself encountered quite a few serious violations in the area, which I have captured on my phone as well as on my dashcam. Later, I raised the issue on the Public Eye portal of the traffic police. It is shown that the challan has been issued against the violator, but when you go to the Karnataka One portal to check if they have implemented fines, it doesn't show," said Naman.

> **With the rains coming, the speeds at which they try to jump the signal could be risky for cars coming. Every day you can see bikes on footpaths**
>
> –Naman SInha, commuter

Some also claim that the area is a nightmare for pedestrians.

"The traffic there is mismanaged, and the diversion that comes kind of cuts through the traffic. Despite a traffic signal being there, I still find it scary. As a pedestrian, that circle is a lot of people's nightmare. I don't know why I can't find more policemen there controlling speeding vehicles. It's like we are waiting for something major to happen, and only then will the issue be highlighted to authorities," said Shruthi, a final-year undergraduate student.

Rajkumar Dugar, Founder & Convenor, Citizens For Citizens (C4C), says that the area needs a comprehensive redesign to ensure commuters' safety.

"Traffic police consultants need to look at the traffic flow at that junction. It has problems and needs comprehensive solutions. One of the major problems there is the rumble strips on the road just before the signal. People get confused thinking that they have to stop there. It not only creates traffic chaos but also increases the chances of an accident.

The authorities also need to introduce suitable convex mirrors in the city, which will help riders see the vehicles around them clearly, which they are unable to see normally. But the most important thing is that action should be taken before any major accident happens on the junction.

The authorities must have an open mind to redesign and accept suggestions from the people," said Dugar.

Are you getting many spam calls lately?

Don't bother picking up WhatsApp calls from international numbers

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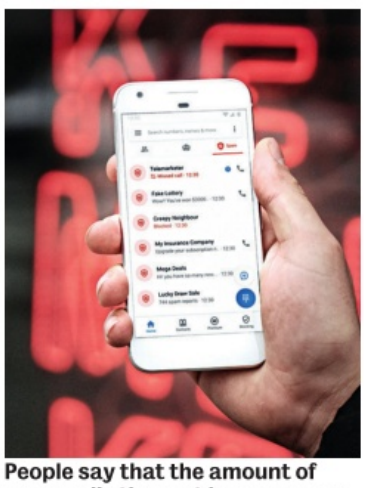
If you are receiving WhatsApp calls from international numbers every now and then, then you are not alone. Residents in the city complain that they have been receiving calls from international numbers at least four times a day. People claim that most of these numbers are from Vietnam or Kenya.



People say that the amount of scam calls they get have gone up

Sehej Sharma said that she has been receiving WhatsApp calls from +254 codes for the last two weeks. "I used to get spam calls every now and then, but then it was once every two months. More recently, since the last couple of weeks, I have been getting WhatsApp calls from international numbers every single day. The problem is that every time it is a new number. How many numbers can you block? Initially, I used to pick up these calls, and they would offer me a part-time job if I gave them some money. Later, I stopped picking up the calls," she said.

Another resident said that they are concerned about data privacy because of the calls. "The main concern has to be how these fraudsters are getting my number. My number is not available on any of my social media handles. Still, they are able to get it. This shows that some platform where I have registered my number must be selling the data to the scammers," they said.

"I have more numbers in my block list than my contacts. I start getting calls from morning till evening. One time, I picked up and talked to the person for 15 mins. They pretended to be HR representatives of a financial institution. When I asked them to send me a few documents, they refused and asked me to complete a task before going ahead with the offer. This can also lead to harassment. While talking to a female friend, I realised that she gets random obscene videos on her WhatsApp from international numbers asking her to chat with them," says Ashutosh, a techie.

Hoopoe chick gets 'second life'

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A team from People for Animals (PFA) successfully rescued and rehabilitated an adorable Eurasian hoopoe chick, giving it a second chance at life. After two months of providing care and support to the bird, it was recently released back into the wild.

The Eurasian hoopoe, known for its striking plumage and distinctive crest, has found a welcoming home in various habitats across India, ranging from forests to grasslands and even urban areas. Despite its adaptability, the species faces challenges due to habitat loss and degradation, making conservation efforts vital to its survival.

The Eurasian hoopoe chick that was rescued by the PFA

Chief veterinarian Col. Dr Navaz Sharif said, "Recently, a tiny hoopoe chick was discovered stranded and alone in the wild, in need of urgent care and attention. Our veterinarian was on leave. Dr Darshan had spotted the bird in Mandya, and we rescued it. The PFA team sprang into action, swiftly rescuing the chick and bringing it to their shelter. There, they meticulously monitored its condition and provided round-the-clock care for two months."

To ensure the chick's well-being, it was placed in an incubator where its body temperature was carefully regulated. During the initial weeks, the chick received a diet of small worms, gradually transitioning to adult worms as it grew stronger and healthier. Thriving under the PFA team's dedicated care, the chick quickly adapted to its new surroundings.

Dr Navaz added, "The chick's successful release back into the wild highlights the importance of wildlife conservation."

Cracks in development

How long can it take for newly asphalted road to develop cracks? In Herohalli, just three months

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

KAUSHIK JN

The main road that connects Magadi Road to the 8th Mile on Tumakuru Road has developed cracks; Residents say elected representatives have not bothered to provide amenities to D Group Layout

The residents of Group D Layout in Herohalli ward near Magadi Road were shocked to find that the road, asphalted just three months ago, has now developed cracks. The residents said the cracks on the road look like soil cracks in rural areas. They blame the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) engineers for sub-standard quality of asphalting.

"The main road that connects Magadi Road to the 8th Mile on Tumakuru Road was asphalted three months ago. Asphalting of the road was pending for quite a long time due to the reasons best known to the authorities. We were very happy when the BBMP engineer engaged a contractor to asphalt the road. However, we did not expect the road to develop cracks in a matter of just three months," said Krishna KK, a resident of D Group Layout.

Krishna said the residents had already complained to the elected representatives, especially the incumbent minister for cooperation ST Somasekhar about the poor infrastructure in the layout. "The minister assured us that he would fix the problems, but he did nothing till date. We expect all our problems to be fixed only after the BBMP elections. It will be easy for us to approach the ward corporator," he opined.

The residents complain that elected representatives did not bother to provide amenities to D Group Layout where hundreds of families are residing.

"I have been residing here for six years. We have been facing a lot of problems, but the BBMP authorities did nothing to mitigate our woes. We have been paying property tax to the civic body," said a resident, pleading anonymity.

> **"I have been residing here for six years. We have been facing a lot of problems, but BBMP did nothing to mitigate our woes** – Resident

Coming down heavily on the Palike authorities for not maintaining quality while asphalting the road, Gowdaiah, a social activist, said that he wanted the BBMP engineer to take measures to fill up the potholes on the road without any further delay to avoid inconvenience to the motorists. This would be especially important for two-wheeler riders during the monsoon.

"What can I say about the BBMP authorities for their commitment and dedication if the road is full of potholes and cracks within three months of asphalting it by spending lakhs of rupees?" asked Gowdaiah.

He also demanded the BBMP authorities take measures to stop burning or dumping of garbage on the road. "Dumping and burning garbage is rampant here. I have complained to the authorities about the same," he added.

Meanwhile, the BBMP assistant engineer (Herohalli ward) was not available for comment.

Garbage pile grows too close to stormwater drain

Bannerghatta Road residents worried about trash, debris from construction site near drain

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The stormwater drain on Bannerghatta Main Road; residents are worried that the clogged drain may overflow, causing floods

Residents of Adarsh Vihar apartments, situated next to a stormwater drain on Bannerghatta Main Road, have complained that the garbage accumulated over months has not been cleared. Anitha, a senior citizen and a resident of the apartment, told Bangalore Mirror that debris from a nearby construction site is being dumped daily, worsening the situation.

She said, "The garbage alone has accumulated immensely, causing a stench, but along with the construction materials being dumped, the pile has risen now. The monsoons are soon approaching, and the garbage is likely to stop the smooth flow of rainwater." Anitha added that pourakarmikas previously dumped bags of garbage collected during their routines as the drain has little oversight. After multiple complaints to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), they stopped disposing of garbage collected into the drain, she explained.

Anitha urged the authorities to ensure that stormwater drains are not used to dispose of garbage by keeping constant oversight and regular checks. "They must regularly desilt and clear the drains of garbage, so the environment does not become unlivable for neighbouring citizens. Those who visit the Spar supermarket on the same lane have to close their noses through the stretch to deal with the smell," she explained.

"We requested the BBMP to clean the drains from early February to March, hoping that they complete the work by April, just before the monsoons. However, it is never in their schedule of work. Closed drains can be managed, but the open drains are in a pathetic condition," said Poongothai, a member of the Bengaluru NavaNirmana Party (BNP). She noted that garbage is often dumped into these drains and called for the authorities to carry out desilting work at least every alternate year.

> **"Monsoons are coming, and the garbage is likely to stop smooth flow of rainwater** – Anitha, resident

With the monsoons approaching, residents living near stormwater drains dread the floods that may arise due to the drains overflowing as they have not been desilted. Last year, several cases of localities being flooded due to the same issue were consistently brought to light, alongside many cases of encroachments. In January, the BBMP launched a drive to desilt stormwater drains (SWD) in all 27 Assembly segments falling under its jurisdiction. However, citizens claim that they have not seen any sign of the work taking place.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Shoddy work

RT Nagar

The entirety of RT Nagar is witnessing 'dangerous' work by BBMP that is putting citizens' lives at risk.

Garbage dumping

Koramangala

BWSSB work has been left unfinished for months with debris piling up in 3rd Cross, 80ft Main Road, MM Garden, Koramangala.

Authorisation required

Old Airport Road

An unauthorised food stall vehicle, with a cooking gas cylinder, gas stove, and no number plate, is blocking the footpath of Medahalli bus stop on Old Madras Road.

Full charge alright

Red tape, wonky portal and BESCOM meter upgrade costs are making EV home charging set-up a painful business

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

New meters are required if you want to charge your electric vehicle at home

The high costs of upgrading BESCOM meters needed to establish EV home chargers are proving to be another setback for EV users. A Bengaluru-based EV user said that he has been running from pillar to post trying to get the BESCOM meter upgraded and has been asked to pay Rs 35,000 for the upgradation. The user wanted to establish the home charging unit before the vehicle arrived and now is forced to charge his Rs 45 lakh EV four-wheeler at a public charging station.

Brij Singh, the EV user, told Bangalore Mirror, "I bought an EV car, and to set up the home charging unit, I have been trying to upgrade the meter. The BESCOM meter has to be upgraded from the existing 6 Kw to 15 Kw. For this purpose, some applications have to be sent. The easiest method is to send submissions online, but the portal never works. Another option is to visit the local office and submit a paper application."

However, he said that the local office refused to accept his application and he has to go through Tier 1 contractors. "After meeting several people, I zeroed in on one contractor. All contractors have been quoting somewhere between Rs 25,000-35,000.

Even after many weeks, the application has not been submitted. Depending on the housing society, the application has to go through different departments. The contractor said that contractor fees plus the government fees come down to Rs 5,000. Meanwhile, the car has arrived, and I have to use public charging stations," he added.

> **Depending on the housing society, the application has to go through different depts. The contractors want their fees plus the government fees**
>
> –Brij Singh, electric car user

Singh rued that even after months, his application has not moved ahead.

Why it costs so much: BESCOM

However, BESCOM officials say that the costs of upgrading BESCOM meters can be high. "If the upgradation happens within 3 Kw, it should not be an issue. If the upgradation is above 7.5 Kw, then they need to reach out to the sub-division. Up to 18Kw, users can apply at the Janasnehi. In this case, the meter will have to be changed from single phase to three-phase.

Users will have to pay extra deposits at the sub-division. For every additional 1kw requirement, users have to pay an additional Rs 1,500.

And further, after 3Kw, there will be additional charges," informed a senior BESCOM official.

Stumbling blocks

- For EV home chargers, there is a need to upgrade BESCOM meters
- The meter has to be upgraded to 15 Kw from the normal 6 Kw
- The upgradation costs over Rs 35,000
- Applications have to be sumitted on a portal that is barely functional

Rule letting vehicle owner off the hook if they are not behind the wheel gets thumbs-up in city

Let the violator pay

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Following an announcement in Chennai letting commuters be exempted from paying traffic fines if they are not driving their vehicle, some Bengalureans are hoping for the same. Many people lend their vehicles to friends or relatives and often have to face a challan if the person who borrowed it violated traffic rules. However, in Chennai, due to automatic number plate recognition cameras, people can now prove that they did not cause the traffic violation and get away with not paying the fine.

Bengaluru residents also want the same thing to be implemented in the city. Tarun, a techie, says, "I often lend my vehicle to my colleagues, and when I check online, several traffic violations are registered for my vehicle. They should implement a law that makes the person who violated the rule responsible for paying. Other residents fear that this might lead to increased corruption cases. "The modification can be introduced provided there are clear guidelines to prove innocence. It should also be possible to hold the actual driver responsible. Unless both of these can be efficiently done in each case, modifying the rule won't be helpful. Also, convincing the police to quash the challan should not lead to corruption," said Sudhanshu.

Shankar, who owns a bike rental shop in Bengaluru, says that it will be a good step for people like him who give vehicles on rent as most of the time, people who rent vehicles violate traffic rules, but the shop has to pay the fine.

"This happens a lot. There will be challans for speeding or jumping traffic signals on bikes that we give for rent as cameras can only catch the number plates. But if there is a system where the person who is driving is fully responsible for the payment, it will boost our business as well," he said.

Scooter-tipper lorry collision kills woman

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

A woman died after a tipper lorry collided with her bike in Anekal. The incident occurred when the two-wheeler was traveling from Indlawadi village to Anekal town. The lorry rammed into it near Indlavadi Circle, resulting in the woman's death on the spot.

The man riding the bike and another woman also sustained serious injuries in the accident. According to the police, the tipper lorry driver fled the scene.

"The lorry ran over the mother, who fell down as soon as the bike collided with the lorry. Her son and granddaughter also fell on the road and sustained serious injuries on their heads and other parts of the body. The injured have been admitted to the hospital," said the police. The deceased woman has been identified as Ningamma, 55, a resident of Indlavadi village.

> **The lorry ran over the woman, who fell down as soon as the bike collided with the lorry. Her son and granddaughter also fell and are injured**
>
> –Police official

Sources indicate that the accident occurred due to the tipper driver's negligence. Relatives of the deceased expressed outrage at the tipper driver and owner. The road was blocked for about two hours due to the traffic jam caused by the accident. Anekal police visited the scene to conduct an investigation. The body was sent to the nearby government hospital. After persuading the protestors, the road was finally unblocked, and vehicles were allowed to move.

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2023
OPENS TOMORROW
SPECIAL SALE OFFER
UP TO 70% OFF
SUMMER Sale
13th May to 18th June 2023
Timing : 10:30 am to 9:00 pm
HMT GROUND
Near Jalahalli Police Station,
Opp to Kadamba Gardenia Bengaluru - 560013
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Khadi Kurties | Kashmiri Sarees | Silks Sarees | Khadi Sarees | Designer Kurties | Dress Materiel | Jewellery | Handmade Jewellery
Mattresses & Cushion | Lampshades | Carpets | Mats | Rugs | Ceramic Pots | Handmade Bags | Bedsheets & Much More...
ALL UPI, DIGITAL PAYMENTS, CREDIT & DEBIT CARDS ACCEPTED | FOR MORE DETAILS : 63627 46114 / 98861 74060

Why let party supporters ride helmet-less?

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During election campaigning, many candidates who contested in the State Assembly elections were accompanied by hundreds of two-wheeler riders while filing nomination papers. Majority of these two-wheeler riders failed to wear helmets during the rallies.

It has become routine for traffic police to turn a blind eye to the traffic violations during the election rallies organised by various political parties. Social activists want the traffic police to act tough against those who violated traffic norms during the election rallies and those who will be participating in the victory rallies to be taken out on May 13.

Bike rallies by BJP, Congress supporters who are seen without helmets

"I think the traffic police have no courage to act against the politicians and supporters. They do not want to antagonise politicians, but are ever-ready to take action against the common man," said HM Venkatesh, a social activist.

A few activists want the traffic police to stop such election rallies where participants do not follow the traffic norms. "The traffic police from the jurisdictional traffic police station can prevent political activists participating in bike rallies without wearing helmets. The apathy of traffic police towards these politicians and their supporters will convey a wrong message to society," said a social activist on the condition of anonymity.

Alam Pasha, a social activist from Indiranagar, said the fancy traffic rules and levying penalties are only for the common man. "A scared student, weak pregnant women, senior citizens with missing helmets are blocked for hours together in the name of violation of helmet rule. Now, the same cops are protecting and supporting those political cadres. Why has no action been taken against those violating traffic norms?" asks Pasha.

Additional Director General of Police and Additional Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Dr M A Saleem said that there was no exception from helmet rule for those who participate in election rallies. "There is no need for traffic police to be present on spot and penalise them. Cases will be booked based on footage from cameras at traffic junctions. All those who failed to wear helmets will be booked for traffic violations. From January to April, 27 lakh cases were booked for traffic violations and 26 lakh cases among them are based on the data recorded by cameras installed at the traffic junctions," Dr Saleem said.

Ready, steady, it's counting time!

Elaborate arrangements in place for counting process set to begin on May 13

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KAUSHIK JN

Security personnel man a strong room at Mount Carmel College

With counting set to take place on Saturday, elaborate arrangements have been made for the process that will seal the fate of 2,615 candidates who are in the fray.

Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner Dayananda KA said, "We have seven Assembly segments: Mahadevapura, Yelahanka, Dasarahalli, Yeshwanthpur, Byatarayanapura and Bengaluru South in our jurisdiction where we are setting up strong rooms to store the EVMs. Yelahanka and Byatarayanapura have the highest number of candidates in fray and hence two ballot units are being used. Hence, we had to set up two strong rooms and there will be one strong room each in other constituencies. On the other hand, Bengaluru South has the highest number of electorates and hence, 570 polling stations will be set up there."

He said that there would be 20 tables of counting each in Bengaluru South, Yeshwanthpur and Dasarahalli segments and each table will be connected to CCTV and the entire counting process will be webcast. "We have already conducted a training programme for officials and a final training programme will be held on May 12 for micro-observers, counting supervisors and counting assistants. There will be a three-layered security at the counting booth. While the external layer will be manned by paramilitary forces, the rest two will be managed by civil police. The liquor ban has been in force since Monday evening. We have also shut down 200 bars for violating orders. We have also held talks with our Tamil Nadu counterparts to shut down bars in the neighbouring state's five-kilometre radius from Karnataka border,"Dayananda added.

Adding to this, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said that overall, around 35,000 staff have been deployed for the polling process in Bengaluru even though they have issued orders for 39,000 personnel. Additionally, there will be 15,000 police personnel and home guards along with 59 companies of paramilitary troops deployed.

During this election, 94,931 senior citizens and persons with disabilities cast their vote from home.

Officials are being trained while there will be a three-layered security at the counting booth comprising paramilitary, civil police

A number of election violations were reported. Till May 9, 2023 (5 pm), out of total 18,321 complaints received, 16,551 were found to be correct and have been disposed of.

The maximum complaints were received from Bagalkot (3,511) and Chitradurga (2,314) districts while least complaints were received from Chamrajnagar (20) and Yadgir (35) districts. Amongst the different categories, maximum complaints were received for posters/banners put up without permission (10,695). Out of 439 complaints received for property defacement, 436 were found to be correct, said an official.

Hoskote recorded highest turnout

Hoskote recorded the highest of 90.9 per cent of polling on Wednesday. As per the latest statistics provided by EC, Yeshwanthpur recorded the highest of 63.23 per cent polling. Yeshwanthpur, along with Yelahanka (62.67 per cent) and Anekal (62.31 per cent) had a high turnout. These were the only three constituencies in Bengaluru to breach the 60 per cent polling. The lowest polling percentage was recorded in CV Raman Nagar (47.44 per cent), Bommanahalli (47.36 per cent).

The overall polling in state was 73.19 per cent.

Row over free food for voters

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A hotelier has approached the Karnataka High Court seeking permission to continue the tradition of providing breakfast free of cost to the voters, after BBMP authorities stopped the practice on May 9, saying that supply of food for free would be in violation of model code of conduct.

Krishna Raju SP of Nisarga Grand had offered benne dosa, Mysore Pak, and a glass of juice to the voters who cast votes on May 10. The hotelier had applied to the Election Commission seeking permission. The Election Commission forwarded the hotelier's application to BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath who is District Electoral Officer.

The BBMP authorities gave permission to the hotelier on May 7 but cancelled it on May 9 citing that supply of breakfast would be in violation of model code of conduct. This compelled Raju to approach the High Court.

Social activists have criticised Nath. They said the hotelier did not belong to any political party and said that the BBMP Chief Commissioner cancelled the permission to keep his political bosses happy.

"What has the BBMP Chief Commissioner done when politicians distributed freebies to the voters in Bengaluru? He has no courage to act tough against those who violated model code of conduct. The proprietor of Nisarga Grand wanted to encourage people to vote," said HM Venkatesh, a social activist.

Karnataka Rakshana Vedike leader Praveen Shetty said the decision was taken in a hurry. "Raju did not violate the model code of conduct. He did not appeal to vote for a particular political party," said Shetty.

Raju said the tradition was not new. "I provided breakfast to 3,660 voters in the 2018 Assembly election and to 5,100 voters in 2019 Lok Sabha election. I also provided tickets to 150 youths (most of them first time voters) to watch Kannada movie Siren," he said, adding that he would continue with the practice.

Voters have breakfast at Nisarga Grand after casting their votes on May 10

Campus carbon neutrality mantra: Tips to live green

Get second-hand or eco-friendly clothes, opt for public transport: UGC's ideas to cut carbon footprint

| Sridhar Vivan
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The UGC wants students and faculty to adopt non-motorised or public transport to reach colleges

With the University Grants Commission (UGC) asking colleges to become carbon neutral campuses, it has also suggested that students and colleges adopt a slew of measures to reduce their carbon footprint. According to a circular issued to colleges on May 5, UGC has suggested that students opt for clothing from companies that are eco-friendly or organically certified.

"Consider buying second-hand clothes or joining a clothing swap group. Practice consumption patterns that emit minimal carbon dioxide. In colleges, ensure low-flow water fixtures. Turn off the taps to avoid water wastage. Adopt rainwater harvesting techniques and monitor the water consumption and any leakages," said the circular.

Carbon neutrality refers to achieving net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by balancing human induced carbon dioxide emissions with removal (often through carbon offsetting or carbon sink) and/or simply eliminating anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions over a specified period. A carbon offset or carbon sink is a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases made to compensate for an emission made elsewhere or by creating a sink like a tree plantation.

Interestingly, the UGC wants students and faculty to adopt non-motorised or public transport to reach colleges. "Ride a bike to work, choose public transport or switch to an electric or hybrid vehicle, choose a bus or train travel. Coordinate carpooling between employees. Form a group of students to map out the Carbon Neutral Campus. Colleges should conduct an energy and carbon audit. Students should be educated on the harmful effects of greenhouse gas emissions and approaches to reduce them. There is a need to engage students and staff in moving to a greener lifestyle. It is better to encourage carbon footprint reduction with incentives such as a monthly contest," the circular added.

> **"The first step is to establish a core group or a carbon team to undertake proactive actions on campus** – Manish Joshi, UGC

UGC secretary Manish Joshi said that higher education institutions play a major role in making India Net Zero, by making their campuses carbon neutral. "Hence, we have suggested simple steps for making the campus carbon neutral. Even the National Education Policy-2020 reaffirms that Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the pillars on which the concept of integrated education and skill development should be realised.

Climate change is a planetary crisis, caused primarily by the emission of human-induced greenhouse gases, mainly carbon dioxide released from burning fossil fuels like oil, coal, and gas. It results in global warming. "Carbon dioxide emissions need to fall to zero or NetZero by around mid-century to limit global warming to 2 deg Celsius by the end of this century. The longer it takes to do so, the more global warming there will be," Joshi said.

He said that emission reductions and offsetting residual emissions if practised on the campus would serve as campus determined contributions for reducing global warming, which would trigger actionable awareness.

"It would be a skill development for students towards a carbon neutral future. Hence colleges should identify opportunities and implement carbon dioxide emission reduction activities. The first step is to establish a core group or a carbon team to undertake proactive actions on the campus," he said.

Pace/off on the expressway

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

drivers but drivers who can manoeuvre through Indian traffic. Once someone buys a vehicle, they only report the vehicle after 15 years but in the USA, you need to get your vehicle inspected every year. Along with good quality roads, there needs to be stricter enforcement of traffic. Many of the accidents are happening due to tyre bursts," said Dr Ashish Verma of IISc.

He added that as per the study, the highest speed of 159 kmph is more than double the posted speed of 60 kmph."The geometry of the expressway doesn't support such high speed vehicles. Many geometric elements of expressways like gradient, curvature, and super-elevation are a function of the assigned speed. When people speed, these elements do not support the vehicle and the driver loses control. Along with speeding, some drivers also frequently change lanes," added Verma.

Verma further noted that the banning of two-wheelers afforded by most middle-class people on the expressway was a stop-gap measure. "There is a need for larger awareness about the safety benefits of not violating traffic rules. Secondly, enforcement agencies must utilise technology to assure round-the-clock enforcement with minimal human intervention. There is also a need to push for higher penalties to act as a deterrent to unsafe driving practices," he added.

How to reclaim public property, in 3 effective steps

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An open garbage spot in Jyothipura of KR Puram was cleaned and beautified by a BBMP team and a bunch of enthusiastic young volunteers

This open garbage dump near the Tin Factory Junction in Jyothipura locality of KR Puram had been an eyesore for years. People, especially kids and senior citizens, could not walk by this area as it was rendered unhygienic. A diligent effort from team BBMP KR Puram Division, supported by local volunteers, mostly children staying nearby and guidance from The Ugly Indian, has transformed this space.

The children's enthusiastic participation by willingly dedicating their summer holidays to the cause, added an extra layer of energy to the cleanup and painting efforts. The volunteers tried-and-tested spot-fixing methodology employed in Jyothipura. In Step 1, deep clean and vigilance was carried for two-three days. The BBMP team undertook a comprehensive cleanup of the area, significantly reducing dumping by up to 50%. This phase focuses solely on clearing debris and waste, accompanied by increased vigilance to deter further littering.

Next, space transformation was carried out when BBMP collaborated with volunteers to beautify the spot using tried-and-tested designs, ensuring transformation that enhances aesthetic appeal and functionality.

Lastly, night vigilance and enforcement had to be carried out where the BBMP were conducting night patrols to enforce fines on individuals who violate the cleanliness regulations.

Within two weeks, no garbage on ground (NGOG) was achieved by BBMP and volunteers. "This has been a successful team effort, and we have no doubt that it will sustain. Over 200 such spots have been reclaimed and eliminated across Bengaluru in the past 12 months with the involvement of pourakarmikas, marshals, local residents and volunteers. This is a tried-and-tested template and we encourage more residents to attempt the same at garbage black spots in their neighbourhoods," said a volunteer from The Ugly Indian (TUI). A BBMP marshal said, "Community-led initiatives have the power to transform not only physical surroundings but also our collective mindset, reminding us that together, we can create the cleaner, greener cities we envision."

Cauvery water contaminated, unusable

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

frothy and stinking," said Janet Yegneswaran, a senior citizen in the area facing the issue.

In the absence of the Cauvery water supply, residents are managing by drawing water from private borewells and open wells in the area. However, they say these water sources are on the verge of drying.

"Luckily, there have been a few spells of rain and the borewell water level has gone up. However, this is not a sustainable solution. Now the contractor has conveyed to us that until summer gets over, it is unlikely that we will get Cauvery water supply," said another resident and a senior citizen.

A couple of house owners say the Cauvery water supply in the area has been contaminated for some time and they have stopped using it altogether.

"Even when we used to get water, it used to be murky and smelly. We did not use the water that came out of the taps for the first 10 to 15 minutes. We let this water drain and pumped it only after that. We have informed BWSSB officials concerned about the issue multiple times in the past, but nothing has happened so far. We now predominantly use borewell water. There are a couple of houses on the stretch that have stopped using Cauvery water supply due to contamination issues," said Manju Krishna, another resident facing the issue.

Residents also complain that the road has been dug up for a long time and left as it is, leading to a slushy pathway every time it rains. They allege that a trench dug up on the stretch is now leading to a sinkhole.

"The trench was dug up a couple of weeks ago to lay down new pipes for the water connection and since the water supply issue has not been resolved, they have not filled up the trench. The road now appears to be sinking because of that," added another resident.

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CHANGE OF NAME

WE, Chandan Navara & Pavana Acharya R/o. Flat No:208, V4 Bliss Apartments, Vinayaka Layout, K.R. Puram, Bengaluru-560049 have changed our minor daughter's name from Kaishori to Kaishori Navara vide affidavit date: 19.04.2023 sworn before Notary Srinatha. D.R., Bengaluru.

I, Sahanaj Khanum W/O, Abdul Khaleel R/o No1/7, 401, 4th Floor, Sapphire Residency 1st Cross Srk Garden, Next To Lulu Homes, Jayanagar 4th T Block East. Bangalore 560041 have changed my name to Sahanaz Khanum for all purposes.

I, Kanak S/o Anish Laddha R/o Flat.201, A-tower, Mantri green Apt, Sampige road, Malleshwaram, B'luru 560003 have changed my name to Kanak Anish Laddha affidavit Dt.11/05/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Suresh Nurni Vaidyanath S/O, Vaidyanathan Noorani Hariharan R/o 690b Sripura 14th Main Road J P Nagar 2nd Phase Bengaluru 560078 Karnataka,india have changed my name to Suresh Noorani Vaidyanathan for all purposes

I Manjula Kubasad W/O, Satish Kumar Kubsad R/o No. 9, 3rd A Main, 2nd Cross, Sri Krishnanagar, Kothanur, Jp Nagar, 8th Phase, Bengaluru - 560076 have changed my name to Manjula Satish Kumar Kubsad for all purposes.

I, Belinda Maria Masil D/O, Balaraj Abraham R/o No 12-34/1, 2nd Cross, Lin Mansion, Maruthi Nagar Madiwala, Behind Srinivasa Temple, Bangalore - 68 have changed my name to Belinda Maria Balaraj for all purposes.

I Rani Born On 01/06/1989 W/O, Deepak Nerale Krishnamurthy, R/o #593, 27th Main, 2nd Stage, B T M Layout, Bengaluru – 560076, have changed my name to Manasa Deepak for all purposes.

I, Mohamed Asif R/o A108, Rajatha Greens Apartments, Nagawara Main Road, Bangalore- 560045 have changed my minor son's name from Muhammad Danish to Muhammad Danish Sultan

I, L Manohar R/o #19 ,Sri Kari Hanumaiah Badavane Gollarahatti , Kodigehalli B'lore-560091 have changed my name to L Manoharan vide affidavit dt. 13/03/2023 Notary Shreeshah B Gobbani.

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I, Benu Mangla W/o Pankaj Rai Aggarwal R/o G-001, G Block, Godrej Avenues, Dodaballarpur Road, Singanayakanahalli, Bengaluru have changed my name to Benu Aggarwal for all purposes.

I Karuna Prakash S/o P N Arvindakshan R/o Villa # H-09 Brigade Orchards Baichapura Road Rayasandra Village Devanahalli Bengaluru-562110 have Changed my name to V K Prakash for all purposes.

I, Chander Mohan S/O, Madan Mohan R/o #756, 2nd Floor, 5th Cross, Rangappa Layout, hosakerehalli, Kathriguppe, Bangalore 560085 have changed my name to Chander Mohan Singh for all purposes.

I Ankur Agarwal S/O, Jagdish Prasad Agrawal R/o Flat-801,Parimala Sunridge,Varthur Road, Siddapura. Whitefield 560066 have changed my name to Ankur Agrawal for all purposes

I, Mohammed Jaffer Ali s/o Naser Ali R/o #132, JHBCS, Kadrenahalli, JP nagar, Bengaluru 560078 have changed my name to Mohammed Jaffer Ali Naser Ali affidavit Dt.11/05/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Satish Kumar S/O, Sadashivappa Savaligeppa Kubsad R/o No. 9, 3rd A Main, 2nd Cross, Sri Krishnanagar, Kothanur, J P Nagar, 8th Phase, Bengaluru - 560076 have changed my name to Satish Kumar Kubsad

I, Md Zulfuqar Ali, Aged 43 yrs, R/o. #484, 9th Crs, 29th Mn, BTM Lyt, 2nd Stage, Blr-76, have changed my name to MD ZULFIQUAR ALI for all purposes.

I P Satheeshkumar S/O, Bhaskaran Nair R/o No21 , Uthram , Kempanna Layout , Ramachandrapura , Bangalore - 560013 have changed my name to Sathish Kumar P

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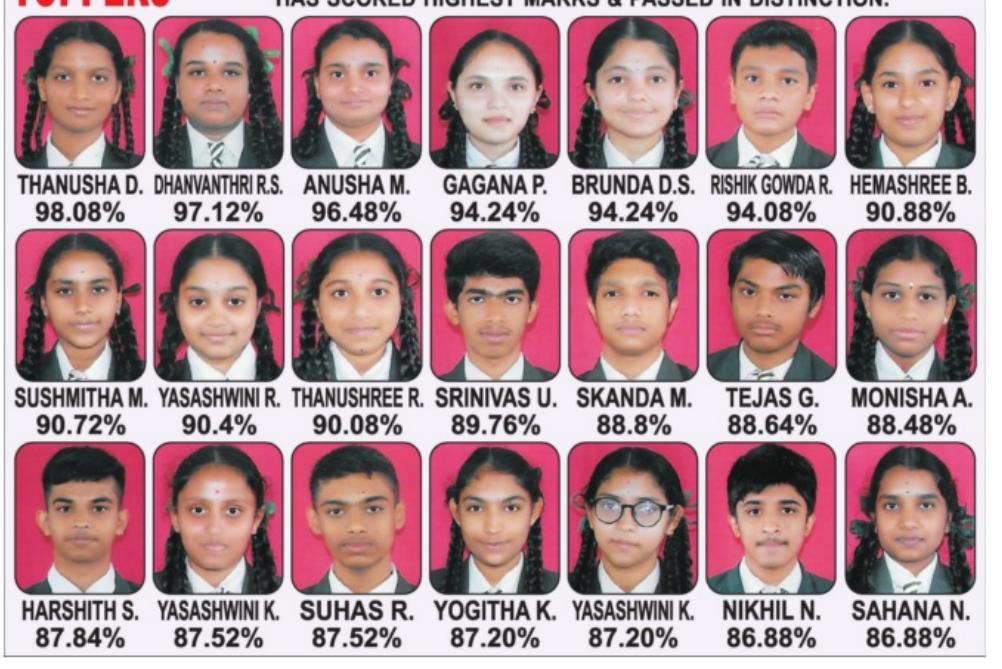

HEALTH TIP: Studies have shown that practicing gratitude can have a positive impact on both physical and mental health as it can reduce stress

Spending time in nature has been shown to have numerous health benefits, including reducing stress and anxiety, and boosting immune function

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HOW TO TRAIN YOUR BOOKWORM

5 mistakes parents should avoid when raising readers

If there is one skill that would probably help children in today's competitive world, Mansi Zaveri, Founder –Kidsstoppress.com pins it on reading, as a habit and as a lifelong skill. From her experience of running #KSPBookClub, an online community of parents looking to raise readers, she filters a few observations to help fellow parents get their children into this habit that transforms into a lifelong passion. In their active pursuit to raise readers, here are some of the common mistakes that parents make:

Not Reading To/With The Kids

"But my child is five! She can read on her own." This is a common mistake we make as parents. Children don't only need us to introduce them to words, they want to travel together with us, in the world of words and characters and storyline. In what serves as the perfect bonding opportunity, read with your children as they get older, they can continue to foster a love of reading and provide an opportunity for meaningful conversations.

The Broccoli vs Ice-cream Approach

Is reading a task on your child's to-do list every day? Is it something you find yourself yelling at them for? If yes, you are making reading akin to eating broccoli. Sounds like a chore to the young minds leading to a lack of interest and motivation. Don't treat your kids with something because they read. Treat reading AS THE TREAT! When they see the joy and comfort that reading provides, they will automatically take to it – exactly like they devour an ice cream.

Who Makes The Choice?

To encourage reluctant readers and develop their interest in reading, it's important to allow them to choose their own books. Exposing them to a wide variety of books can also spark their curiosity and make them more likely to pick up a book and start reading. It's okay to let them choose fiction or fantasy books, as the most important thing is to get them reading.

> **Children resort to reading as a let out. As a fun thing to look forward to. Don't take the fun out of reading by adding deadlines or challenges for them**

Closing The Book At The Last Page

So your child has finished a book. What's next? Take the time to engage in meaningful conversations with them. Ask about their favourite parts, what they learned, what they would change, and which character they liked the most. These conversations can improve their cognitive thinking and help them remember the book better.

The Pressure Of Deadlines

Children resort to reading as a let out. As a fun thing to look forward to. Don't take the fun out of reading by adding deadlines or challenges for them. "X books to read in a month" is no way to raise a reader and often turns out counterproductive. By pushing a child to read beyond their abilities, it only leads to frustration and a dislike of reading.

Also remember, the idea is to raise a reader. To help them foster a love for the art of reading. And thanks to technology today, they can read anywhere and everywhere. And did you hear? Listening is now the new reading. From a range of audiobooks, to e-books there is so much to explore with your little bookworms.

You can also encourage reading in your regional languages. Go ahead and pick up a book in a language that you and your child are looking to improve on and watch the magic of books unfold.

—Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

How to recognise a toxic relationship

A toxic relationship is one that has a negative impact on your emotional, psychological, or physical well-being. Here are some signs of a toxic relationship:

Lack Of Support: In a healthy relationship, both partners should feel supported and encouraged by each other. In a toxic relationship, one partner may fail to provide emotional support or actively discourage their partner from pursuing their goals.

Envy Or Jealousy: Envy or jealousy can be a sign of a toxic relationship, as it can lead to possessiveness, controlling behaviour, and even emotional or physical abuse. Partners in a healthy relationship should feel secure and trusting with each other.

Toxic Communication: In a toxic relationship, communication may involve constant criticism, name-calling, or verbal abuse. This can erode self-esteem.

Dishonesty: Honesty and trust are key components of any healthy relationship. In a toxic relationship, one partner may consistently lie or withhold information from the other, leading to a breakdown of trust and emotional intimacy.

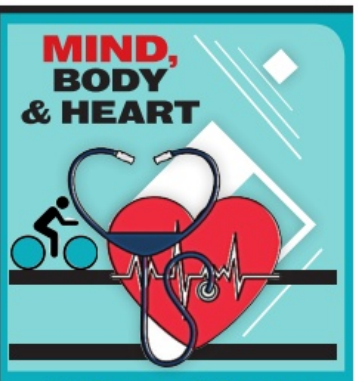
Controlling Behaviour: Controlling behaviour can take many forms, from dictating what your partner wears or whom they can talk to, to threatening or coercive behaviour.

Patterns Of Disrespect: Disrespectful behaviour, such as belittling or humiliating one's partner in public or private, can be a sign of a toxic relationship.

Ignoring Your Needs: In a toxic relationship, one partner may consistently ignore the other's needs or prioritise their own needs over their partner's.

Walking On Eggshells: It refers to the feeling of being in a situation where you have to be very careful about what you say or do because you are afraid of upsetting someone else, often in a relationship where there is a power imbalance or abuse.

— Mahek Aggarwal (Femina)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm hoping you can help me figure out if I can save my marriage. I've been with my husband for nearly seven years and the spark has totally gone.
We're both exhausted from working and looking after our two young kids. He also has two kids from his previous marriage and we're always broke because he supports his ex financially.
She's angry and difficult in equal measure, even though I came on the scene long after they'd separated. But my husband is still so involved with her because he loves his kids.
It all feels too much and life is, quite honestly, miserable most of the time. We rarely have time as a couple and, when we do, we're too tired or annoyed with each other. We used to have a wonderful relationship. Can we find that happiness again?
I did talk about separating for a while to get our heads straight and he was very upset, saying he loved me and the kids. But day to day, he doesn't show it.

COLEEN SAYS

OK, it sounds like you love each other and are committed to working through the problems, so that's a good start. I think you need to sit down together and talk, not about separation, but about how you can fix this.

You're just parents at the moment – you're tired and grumpy and have forgotten how to be a couple. You both have to make the effort to rediscover your relationship and that can start with time management.

If you're not really strict about carving out time together, there will always be something that seems more important. Every minute of your day could revolve around the kids if you don't have a plan.

Try counselling – it can be easier to say what you feel.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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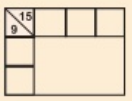
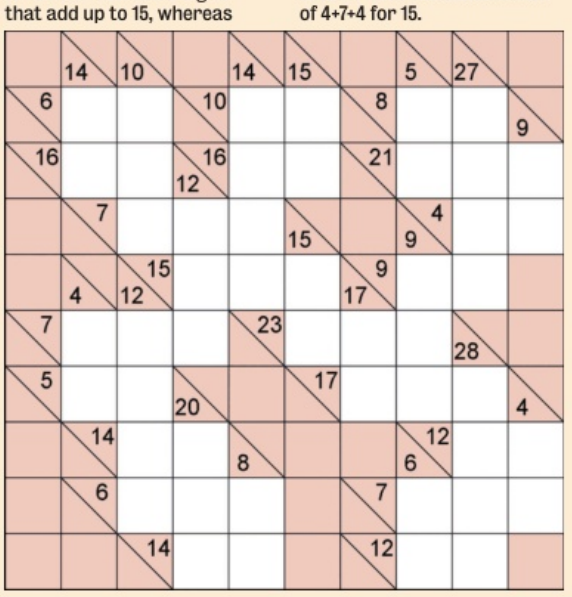
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

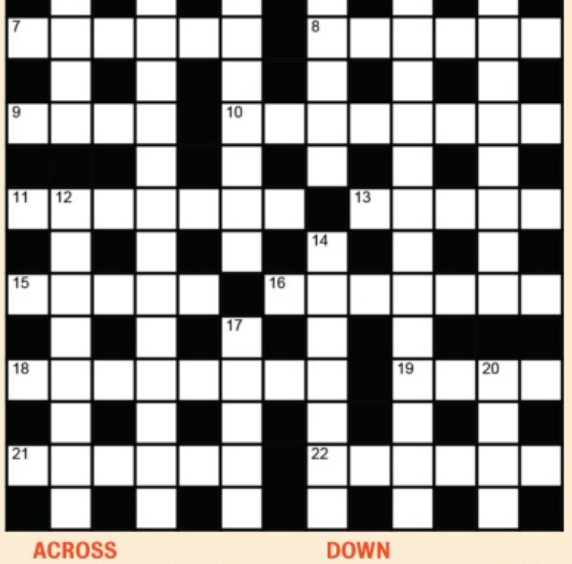


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Logically - not irrationally (6)
8 Foretells; is a sign of (6)
9 A Greek sandwich (4)
10 Ms Jolie of Hollywood (8)
11 Tyrants (7)
13 Defame (5)
15 Quagmire (5)
16 Rust, deteriorate or erode (7)
18 Public sales (8)
19 Rising and falling of the sea (4)
21 Tried hard; struggled or contended (6)
22 Egg-shaped bodies (6)

DOWN

1 Her basilica is located in Shivajinagar (4)
2 Breakdown, rotting (13)
3 Sequence of hereditary rulers (7)
4 Tropical fruit (5)
5 Amassment (13)
6 Dipsomaniac (8)
12 Withdraw to a safer place (8)
14 Continuous or ceaseless (7)
17 Made a dovelike sound (5)
20 Pedestal part (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: L EQUALS G

BGORABL AP ZGCN FRVCV-FONCAPOAF GW V ZVB ORVB ORN ZVBBNC AB MRAFR RN YNRVHNP OGMVCS WGGJP.

Linemaro

Today I caught myself smiling for no reason ... then I realised I was thinking about you

Mindchow

Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't

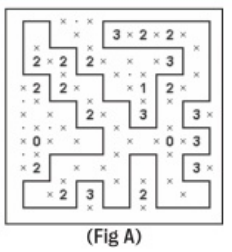
Joke of the day

Teacher: "If 1 + 1 = 2 and 2+ 2 = 4, what is 4+ 4?" Johnny: "That's not fair, you answer the easy ones and leave us with the hard one!"

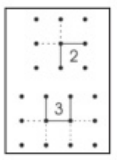
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

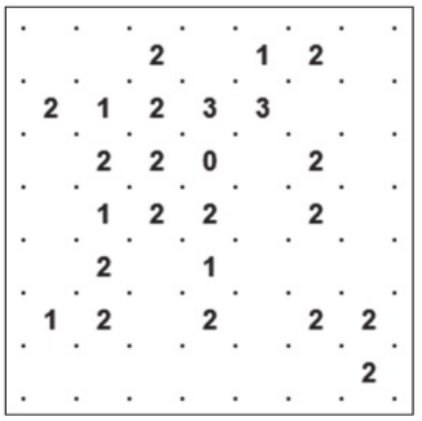


(Fig B) Not Allowed

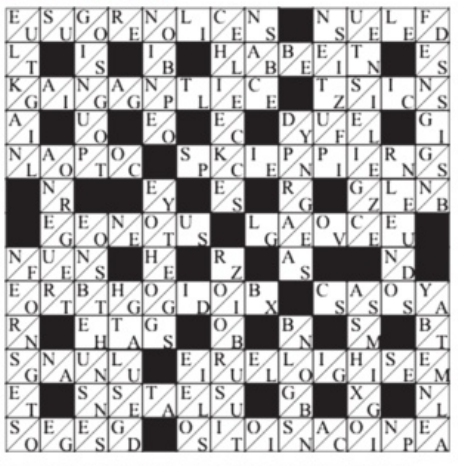
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7		O		
8				
9				

ACROSS

1 Sails; 6 Hoe do; 7 Lib or; 8 Oaten; 9 Drake

DOWN

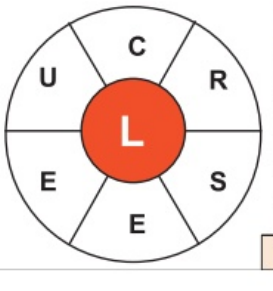
1 Labor; 2 A taro; 3 Hooks; 4 Seen I; 5 Le did

Mensapuzzle

Complete the numbers in the final column.

15	20	19	20
14	23	9	?
5	15	24	?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

09 Average; 10 Good; 12 Outstanding

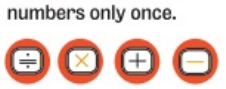
SudokuChallenge

		3				9		
7	2			4			1	6
			8	6	9			
6			5	2	7			9
4			9	1	8			3
			6	5	4			
3	9			8			4	5
		8				2		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

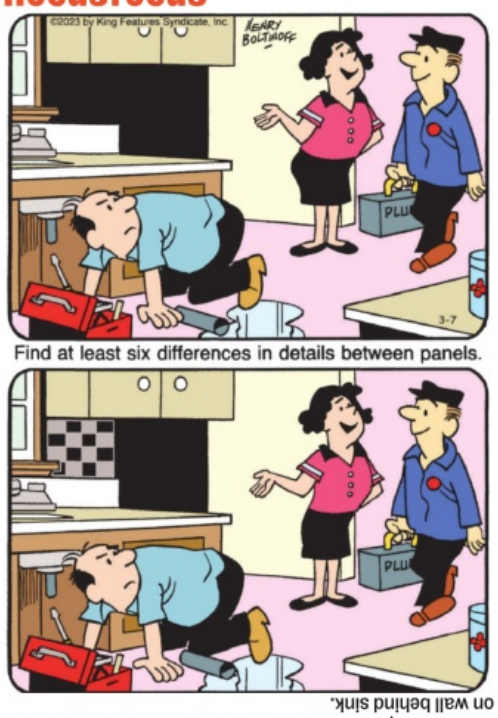


Easy ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 16
2 3 5 6

Medium ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 24
2 4 5 6

Hard ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 9
2 7 8 6

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

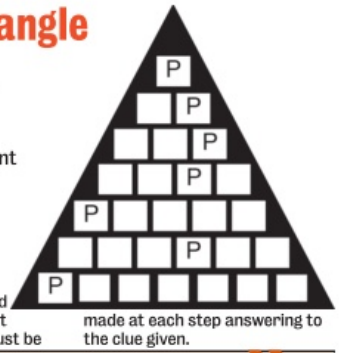
Differences: 1. Arm is moved. 2. Foot is moved. 3. Thumb is moved. 4. Pipe is moved. 5. Woman is thinner. 6. Tile is added on wall behind sink.

Riddler

What number should replace the question mark in the grid below? 42826 31734 21963 269 18 329?5

Alpha triangle

1 16th letter
2 Operation, abbr.
3 Finish, with up
4 Brood
5 Preface
6 One-piece garment for children
7 Do one's bit

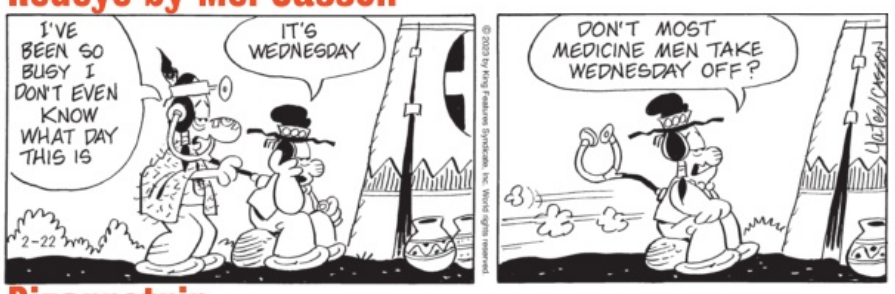


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

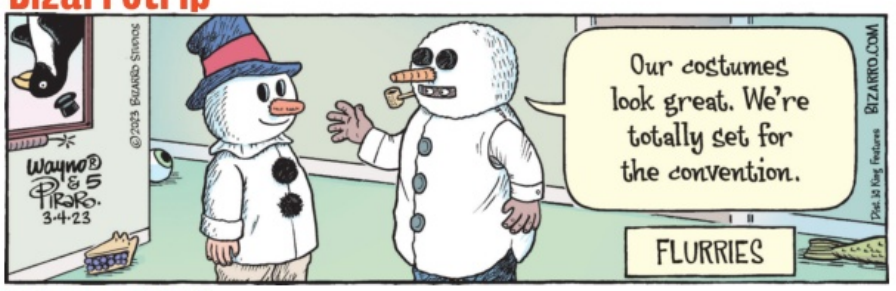
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson



Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

THANKS FOR STANDING UP FOR DEAN, HEART.
OF COURSE, MRS. TATULL!
DEAN IS A VALUED MEMBER OF MY SQUAD. I'LL ALWAYS SUPPORT HIM!
BUT I DON'T THINK I CAN GO TO ALL OF YOUR BASKETBALL GAMES, DEAN. IT'S A LOT OF EXCITEMENT EVERY FRIDAY.
THEN I'LL ONLY SEE SOME OF YOUR PLAYS.
YOU DRIVE A HARD BARGAIN, BUT I ACCEPT.

Crankshaft

HOW ABOUT IF I HAVE MY BOYFRIEND, PETE, WRITE YOUR BIO FOR OUR WEBSITE?
IS HE A WRITER?
HE'S A COMIC BOOK WRITER.
A COMIC BOOK WRITER?
A VERY GOOD COMIC BOOK WRITER!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may be happy and blessed by the moon. You may feel healthy, which may reflect in your way of working. You may perform well in all areas of life, which may improve your prestige. Your concentration may be very good today, and you may make some difficult decisions in your business in terms of growth.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, your vital power may slow down and old diseases may reappear, which can make you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or rash driving. You are advised to settle any type of litigation outside the jury. Try to avoid making arguments on worthless topics. You may also plan for an overseas tour.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may start your day with happiness. At work, you may take quick decisions, which may increase your management skills, giving benefits in the near future. You may expect some new source of income, which may boost your savings. With the help of your business partner, you may invest some capital in the business. Your bonding with your spouse may increase, resulting in harmony in domestic life.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be busy at work, which can make you tired and may not allow you to spend proper time at family get-togethers. You may be able to create some overseas networks also. You should be careful in terms of investments. Those in a job may get a promotion.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, bad situations are under control. Your destiny may likely be with you in terms of gains in business. You may get some rewards for your hard work. It may be a good time to reinitiate your postponed projects. You may expect peaceful travel. You may also plan to donate some amount to a charity.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, your moon is not in a good position, and you may have health issues. You may face losses in business or investments. It is advised not to invest in business. Your gains will convert to losses. So, you are advised to stop making investments in worthless objects. You should avoid being involved in controversies, otherwise, it will negatively affect you.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
You are blessed by the moon today, and you may expect to hear some good news in terms of your profession. Your domestic life may likely be in full swings of joy. You are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics. Overexcitement may test your patience. You can make important decisions about real estate. Students will be focused on their studies.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be blessed by the moon. Love would be in the air in terms of personal life. Singles may find a suitable match. You may do better in terms of professional life. Your friends and subordinate staff may support you. Investments in gems and jewellery may likely give positive gains in the near future. You should be careful for elder's health.

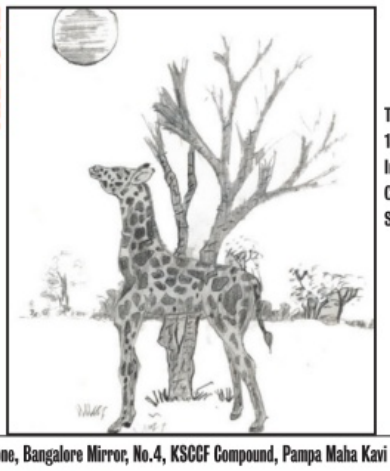
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
You may be happy. You may have some sort of energy, which may increase your prestige among people around you. You may spend your time studying intellectual stuff. You may also plan for some higher studies to groom your career. Students may hear good news in competitive examinations.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, at the start of the day, it may be a dull day. After late evening, you may control negativity. New people may connect with you on the work front. With the help of new people, you may try to revamp your business plans. It is advised to read documents before putting your signature.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, with the help of blessings, you may gain control over your indecisiveness. Kid's health is better now. Your colleagues may be supportive in your work, which will convert into success in terms of the project. You may expect to get some incentives with your salary.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be busy with family get-togethers and social events. You may become polite with the people around you, which may increase your prestige among them. You may spend money buying some artifacts or household stuff, which may improve your social status. You may also hear some good news from one of your relatives. Your financial health may likely be good.

KIDZONE



Tejas N, 13 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Akash N, 12 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER The missing number is 4. In each row, adding the first two numbers gives the final number on that row; subtracting the fourth number from the third number also gives the final number.

QUOTE UNCODE Nothing is more characteristic of a man than the manner in which he behaves toward fools.

SOLVE IN 1M
=80/50
=8/5
=1.6

FAST FIVE

L	A	S	S	I
O	O	H	E	D
B	R	O	I	L
A	T	O	N	E
R	A	K	E	D

STRIKE OUT

E	U	G	E	N	I	C	S	S	U	E	D	E		
L	I	I	H	A	B	I	T	E						
G	I	G	A	N	T	I	C	T	I	C	S			
I	O	E	C	Y	U	L	I							
N	A	T	O	S	K	I	P	P	I	N	G			
N	E	S	R	Z	E	N								
G	E	N	T	S	L	E	V	E	E					
F	E	N	H	R	S	D								
O	R	T	H	O	D	O	X	C	A	S	A			
R	H	A	S	B	B	M	B							
G	A	U	L	E	U	L	O	G	I	S	E			
E	S	E	A	L	S	B	G	L						
S	E	E	D	O	T	O	S	C	O	P	E			

QUICK

M	D	D	M	A	D									
S	A	N	E	L	Y	A	U	G	U	R	S			
		R	O			A	N	O	V	O	I	D	S	
		G	Y	R	O	A	N	G	E	L	I	N	A	
			M		S	O		O		K				
D	E	S	P	O	T	S		S	M	E	A	R		
		V		O		Y		N		E		R		
M	A	R	S	H		C	O	R	R	O	D	E		
		C		I		C		N						
A	U	C	T	I	O	N	S		T	I	D	E		
						A								
S	T	R	O	V	E	O	V	O	I	D	S			
E		N		D		P		N		O				

BULL'S EYE Clue, cruel, curl, else, leer, lucre, lure, RECLUSE, reel, rule, slur, ulcer

MENSA PUZZLE 5 and 14: each number represents a letter of the alphabet according to its numerical position in the alphabet. The letters in each column spell out three letter numbers: 1, 2, 6 and 10.

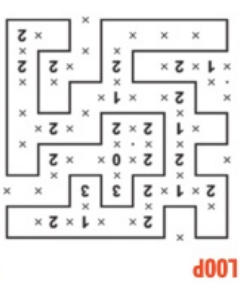
SUDOKU

8	6	3	2	7	1	9	5	4
7	2	9	3	4	5	8	1	6
1	5	4	8	6	9	7	3	2
6	3	1	5	2	7	4	8	9
9	8	2	4	3	6	5	7	1
4	7	5	9	1	8	6	2	3
2	1	7	6	5	4	3	9	8
3	9	6	7	8	2	1	4	5
5	4	8	1	9	3	2	6	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
6 + 3 + 5 + 2 = 16
Easy
6 × 5 − 4 − 2 = 24
Medium
6 + 8 + 2 − 7 = 9
Hard

GO FIGURE P, Op, Mop, Mope, Prom, Romper, Perform.

LOOP



KAKURO

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 # Avengers reunion for Renner
Scarlett Johansson and Chris Evans made an unnoticed trip to Los Angeles to visit Jeremy Renner, who was involved in a near-fatal accident in January

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Not a bad guy

Before he agreed to play a murder suspect in Reema Kagti's crime show "Dahaad", actor Vijay Varma says he made the director promise that she would cast him in a "nice guy" role in a future project.

Be it a street thug in "Gully Boy", an abusive husband in "Darlings" or a gangster in "She", the Hyderabad-born actor has made a career out of playing flawed men. In "Dahaad", he essays Anand, a school teacher suspected of a series of murders.

"I was drawn to the script and I couldn't put it down. I read eight episodes in a day-and-a-half. It is a delicious part and I am a very greedy actor," Varma told media source in an interview here. The actor said he doesn't know why filmmakers approach him for roles with grey shades.

"When these characters come to me, I am like, 'Why don't you go to someone else with these characters?' When Reema gave me this character, I said, 'I will do this, but next time give me a nice guy (role)'. She said, 'First do this'," he recalled.

—ETimes

JUST A NATURAL DECISION

Alia Bhatt is basking in the success of her latest movies and enjoying motherhood to the fullest. Recently, the 30-year-old opened up on her decision to have daughter Raha at the peak of her career, while raising some pertinent gender biases that we live amidst in the society.

In an interview to a leading publication, Alia said that it is indeed sad that a man is never questioned when he has a child at the peak of his career. She also went on to add that she was asked if she was willing to slow down her pace because she was having a family. Alia added that her decision was not 'brave' as others put it, rather it was purely led by love. Moreover, after a decade of working relentlessly, Alia thought it was the right time to start a family. Calling it a 'natural and happy' decision, Alia said that she is someone who always follows her heart, whether it is for personal or professional decisions. Elaborating more, the actor said that she could be offered the biggest movie ever, but if her heart does not agree to it, she will not go ahead.

—ETimes

Cannes red carpet beckons

Former Miss World and actress Manushi Chhillar is all set to make her debut on the red carpet of the prestigious 2023 Cannes Film Festival. The 76th edition will be held from May 16 to May 27 in France.

She will be joining actress Anushka Sharma at the prestigious celebration. Several Bollywood personalities such as Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Vidya Balan, and Deepika Padukone, among others, have been part of the jury for the French festival. Mallika Sherawat, Pooja Hegde, Hina Khan, Tamannaah Bhatia, and Aditi Rao Hydari have also walked the red carpet. Meanwhile, on the work front, Manushi will be seen in 'Tehran' next to John Abraham and 'Operation Valentine' with Varun Tej, among many others. —IANS

HER HAPPY PLACE

What Deepika thinks about her best friend, hubby Ranveer

Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone have been one of the most beautiful and loved couples in the movie business. Their relationship started when they were cast opposite each other in Goliyon Ki Raasleela Ram Leela, after which they went on to do two more films together - Bajirao Mastani and Padmavat.

The couple tied the knot in 2018 and will now complete 5 years of togetherness. When asked about her marriage in a recent interview, the actress was surprised by Ranveer Singh who dropped in to meet her, as he was shooting next door for one of his projects. They held hands for a brief moment and he kissed her before leaving.

She mentioned that she is married to her best friend and with Ranveer she can just be her absolute self. She is her most vulnerable, most goofy and most expressive when she's with him. They've known each other for more than 10 years now and she thinks he's her happy space.

The couple recently returned from their Bhutan trip together and have gotten busy with their respective projects. Deepika returned to the sets of Fighter where she is paired opposite Hrithik Roshan for the first time while Ranveer is gearing up to work with Sanjay Leela Bhansali once again. —ETimes